

Public Law 99-164
99th Congress

Joint Resolution

To designate November 30, 1985, as "National Mark Twain Day".

Nov. 26, 1985
[H.J. Res. 259]

Whereas American journalist and author Mark Twain was born Samuel Langhorne Clemens in Florida, Missouri, and Hannibal, Missouri, was his boyhood home;

Whereas Mark Twain is recognized as one of America's greatest authors;

Whereas Mark Twain achieved international fame and his works have been translated into more than fifty languages;

Whereas Mark Twain is also widely recognized as a humorist of extraordinary wit and as a social critic of rare perception;

Whereas the experiences of Mark Twain in Hannibal became the basis of two novels, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*;

Whereas Mark Twain's travels and experiences in other regions of the United States became the basis of many of his other works, including *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, *Life on the Mississippi*, and *Roughing It*;

Whereas Mark Twain succeeded in portraying the American spirit in a way which no other author has been able to duplicate;

Whereas the city of Hannibal maintains the Mark Twain Home and Museum as a historic site;

Whereas the city of Hannibal will be the site of special events and entertainment, beginning in May 1985 and culminating in November 1985, to celebrate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Mark Twain; and

Whereas November 30, 1985, is the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Mark Twain: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That November 30, 1985, hereby is designated "National Mark Twain Day", and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved November 26, 1985.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.J. Res. 259:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 131 (1985):

Oct. 9, considered and passed House.

Nov. 18, considered and passed Senate.